

ONE HUNDREDTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST SESSION
LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 120

Introduced by Wightman, 36;

WHEREAS, inflation in the cost of employer-provided health care in Nebraska has been growing at a double digit annual rate, a much higher rate than the Consumer Price Index and other recognized barometers of our economy; and

WHEREAS, the funding of the state's health insurance plan for the past three years has resulted in a budget deficit of at least \$12 million and consumes an ever-larger share of the budget; and

WHEREAS, growth in the state's health insurance cost is driven by both plans for state employees and employees of schools and political subdivisions; and

WHEREAS, any consideration of health care management initiatives must necessarily consider benefit plan design, short and long-term planning, wellness standards and incentives, disease management, retirement pre-planning, current statutory funding, access and choice for small public employers, comparability and competition both instate and out-of-state, flexibility in plans and options, and quantifying health care spending at all levels of government.

THEREFORE, it is determined that the Appropriations Committee and the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs

Committee of the Legislature shall jointly authorize an interim study committee for the following purposes:

To study the cost of public employee health plans at all levels of government within the State of Nebraska, giving particular attention to containment of the cost of health care plans, improvement of health care for public employees, and consideration of possible legislation to accomplish these goals.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDREDTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Appropriations Committee and the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committees shall upon the conclusion of their study make a report of their findings, together with their recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.